

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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US Department of Energy

AUG 26 2015

Christopher Lawrence
Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability, OE-20
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

AUG 28 2015

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

This is in response to your June 29, 2015, request for DoD to review and comment on the Minnesota Power proposal to develop the Great Northern Transmission Line ("Project") (OE Docket No. PP-398).

We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Presidential Permit application. DoD has no national security concerns with the project crossing the international border and, on that basis, does not object to the issuance of the Presidential Permit to Minnesota Power.

Should the proposed action be amended in a manner that would result in it being sited, constructed, expanded or operated on land or interest in land controlled by DoD, including civil works activities, then a real estate use agreement must be obtained by separate action with the appropriate Military Department.

Sincerely,

Peter Potochney Director, Basing

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations and Environment)